

General Statement

National Park Service General Statement

Introduction The FY 2000 budget for the National Park Service supports the basic NPS mission and adheres to the goals established for effective management which will ensure long-term protection and preservation of the National Park System. The System, consisting of 378 separate and distinct units, is recognized globally as a leader in the area of park management and resource preservation. This budget provides the funding needed to maintain this standing in the world community and further provides the resources needed by park staff to effect and continue this most sacred and considerable trust responsibility. This budget builds on previous year efforts to upgrade and improve park infrastructure, enhance visitor services, promote and support new and innovative partnership opportunities, strengthen Servicewide conservation practices, and provide for an appropriate land protection and infrastructure improvement program.

In FY 2000 and in future years, the popularity of the national parks is expected to continue and present even greater challenges to the NPS both in terms of resource preservation and visitor use. Visitation to the national parks in the 21st century is projected to reach over 300 million people, including a significant increase in the number of international tourists, due largely to the rapidly growing travel and tourism industry. In addition, current trends also show that senior citizens and urban residents make up the fastest growing new tourist groups, most coming by way of packaged tours. These trends will serve to refocus and expand visitor service needs in areas that are more compatible with, and supportive of, the new user groups while also contributing further to the diversity and range of services provided in or adjacent to parks. This millennium year budget supports the Service's basic preservation and visitor enjoyment mission, assists our partners, and provides funding support that is adequate to protect the collective wealth of resources encompassed in the National Park System.

In addition to increased visitation and the consequent increase in demand for services, the new century challenges will center principally around (1) stemming or reducing the number and nature of external and internal threats to resources, (2) correcting or alleviating deficiencies in the Service's information base that will enable the agency to quickly and adequately respond to crisis, and (3) improving the quality and commitment of the management and staff of the National Park Service through specialized training and other professional development opportunities. In order to prepare for these challenges and to meet our responsibility for the ongoing and continued preservation and protection of parks, the FY 2000 budget proposes funding that supports the NPS mission and associated goals as stated in the National Park Service Strategic Plan, and in the FY 2000 Annual Performance Plan. The 1916 enabling legislation for the National Park Service states the mission is to:

Mission "...promote and regulate the use of the Federal areas known as national parks, monuments and reservations hereinafter specified...as provided by law, by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purpose of the said parks, monuments, and reservations, which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

This budget also supports the Administration's Mission 2000 agenda which will accomplish the broader goals of the Department and are focused on three comprehensive themes: (1) Human Health and Safety, (2) Resource Restoration and Protection: Our Legacy for Future Generations, and (3) Natural Resource Science for the 21st Century. These strategies, in addition to adherence to the NPS mission, policy, and directives, will ensure that the inventory of park resources being conveyed to the next generation remain a cherished and honored legacy.

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FY 2000 Budget Request

Overview The National Park Service is requesting \$2.295 billion in budget authority and 20,792 FTE in fiscal year 2000 to meet our stewardship responsibilities for the protection and preservation of heritage resources of the National Park System, and to provide an enhanced level of service to an estimated 290 million visitors annually to the national parks. Included in the total is \$2.059 billion in current and \$236 million in permanent budget authority, which reflects a \$321.4 million, or 16.3 percent increase, over the FY 1999 enacted amount of \$1.974 billion for the National Park Service.

The NPS FY 2000 budget provides increased net funding of \$304.7 million and 582 FTE over the FY 1999 enacted for the Service's five major appropriations: Operation of the National Park System, (+\$101.7 million); National Recreation and Preservation (+\$2.1 million); Historic Preservation Fund (+\$8.1 million); Construction and Major Maintenance (-\$35.7 million); and Land Acquisition and State Assistance (+\$24.5 million). Funding has also been proposed within this budget for the Urban Park and Recreation Fund (+\$4.0 million) and for a new appropriation, Conservation Grants and Planning Assistance, (+\$200 million) that will expand protections of open space and natural areas.

In FY 2000, the NPS proposes two major initiatives and a number of other high priority programs which are supportive of the Administration's Mission 2000 strategy and the Service's Strategic Plan. These initiatives are briefly highlighted and represent the highest funding priorities of the National Park Service:

Administration Initiatives

- **\$376.5 million requested for a *Lands Legacy Initiative* that will expand Federal, State, Tribal and local government efforts to protect America's public land resources.**

The Lands Legacy Initiative as announced by the Administration is a \$1.0 billion program that has been characterized as "the largest one-year investment ever in the protection of America's land resources." This initiative will be funded through receipts from the Land and Water Conservation Fund which was established by Congress in 1964 (Public Law 88-578), "to provide for the acquisition of public lands to meet the needs of all Americans for outdoor recreation." This initiative will provide significant new resources to States and communities to protect local greenspaces and will constitute the largest request for appropriations from the Land and Water Conservation Fund for the purpose of land protection. The Administration's *Land Legacy Initiative* will have far-reaching and long-term impact on the landscape of the Nation. The request focuses on providing support that will strengthen public land protection programs at the Federal, State, Tribal and local government levels. Of the \$376.5 million proposed within the National Park Service for the *Lands Legacy Initiative*, \$172.5 million is provided in the Service's regular land acquisition appropriation, \$200 million is requested in a new Conservation Grants and Planning Assistance appropriation, and \$4.0 million is requested in the Urban Park and Recreation Fund appropriation which was last funded in 1994. Funding made available to State, Tribal and local governments will be provided in grants on a matching basis. [\$228.543 million of the total is new or increased funding.]

- **\$715.6 million requested for the *Facilities Restoration Initiative* which consists of funding within the Construction and Major Maintenance, Historic Preservation Fund and Operation of the National Park System (Facility Operations and Maintenance) appropriations. This initiative will improve the infrastructure of the national parks and address long-standing health and safety deficiencies.**

The *Facilities Restoration Initiative* was advanced by the Administration in FY 1999 to ensure that park visitors and employees are afforded safe environments to visit and work. Within the Facilities Restoration program is funding of \$635 million (the entire construction and maintenance program request for FY 2000) which supports the Safe Visits to Public Lands Initiative. As part of the "Safe Visits to Public Lands Initiative," the National Park Service along with other DOI bureaus have developed a 5-Year Maintenance and Capital Improvement Plan. Each plan provides the

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projects of greatest need in priority order with special focus first on critical health and safety and critical resource protection.

The FY 2000 budget begins a proposed 5-year plan in annual increments for line item construction and maintenance (\$118.175 million) within the Construction and Major Maintenance appropriation and the (repair and rehabilitation program) (\$61.581 million) Facility Operations and Maintenance subactivity of the Operation of the National Park System appropriation. This plan will be subject to adjustments in outyears based on funding levels. Additionally, as part of the FY 2001 budget, the NPS will report on FY 1999 accomplishments and provide any necessary adjustments to outyears. Details of the specific projects for year one (FY 2000) of the 5-year plan for the line item construction and maintenance program is included in this budget document. Details of the FY 2000 repair and rehabilitation projects, as well as summary information presented for years two through five for both maintenance and construction are presented in a companion document.

Other Priorities

- **+\$25 million requested for Basic Park Operations to protect park resources and to convey to the next generation an uncompromised system of national parks that are reflective of the culture, heritage, and character of the Nation.**

The Service's budget for FY 2000 provides a \$25 million increase for operating needs at 90 parks, two national historic trails, and U.S. Park Police operations. This funding will be used to address five broad cross-cutting categories of need, including: (1) \$8.29 million for technical expertise to address threats to park resources, (2) \$1.6 million for a coral reef initiative that focuses on preservation, protection and restoration of United States coral reef ecosystems at coastal parks in response to Executive Order 13089, (Coral Reef Protection), (3) \$9.852 million for urban parks, including \$2.661 million for the United States Park Police, (4) \$9.268 million for parks that have acquired new and special operational responsibilities, and (5) \$6.079 million to complement and support the Service's "Safe Visits to Public Lands" initiative. The total of amounts shown by category exceed \$25 million due to some of the increases falling into more than one category. Examples of the range of park operating needs that will be the focus of this increase include:

- At **Joshua Tree National Park** where funding will be used to protect park wilderness from external threats. Funding will provide for needed compliance, ecological monitoring, restoration of disturbed land, illegal track removal, trash and refuse disposal, and visitor contact.
- At **Denali National Park and Preserve** where funding will be used to meet increased demand for services and to establish essential telecommunications operations.
- At **Dry Tortugas National Park** where funding will be used to initiate a monitoring/protection program for pristine coral reefs. Funds would help assess and monitor coral reef conditions and determine appropriate management responses.
- At **Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail** where funding will be used to prepare for the staging of a national bicentennial event. The Bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, from the vicinity of Wood River, Illinois, to the mouth of the Columbia River and return will occur in the years 2004-2006. The National Park Service by virtue of its role as administrator of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, with five park units directly related to the history of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and other units along the expedition route and in the territory they explored, will play a key leadership role in the observance of the bicentennial.

- **+\$19.756 million requested for Resource Stewardship and Science to implement and advance a Natural Resource Initiative that is aimed at revitalizing the natural resource program in the national parks.**

Included in the total is a funding increase of \$19.8 million for a NPS Natural Resource Initiative which is designed to bring about greater overall accountability within the NPS for protection and management of park natural resources. The

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funding will serve as a catalyst to draw together the people, plans, public support and funds necessary to better protect parks in the challenging climate of the future. The initiative will commit the resources, expertise, and science to parks to ensure that managers have the best possible information to use in protecting and preserving parks. With this increase, the NPS would begin the necessary challenge of revitalizing natural resources management in the National Park Service. Included in the total is \$8.0 million for the inventory and monitoring program to accelerate the schedule for completion of inventories at parks; \$4.0 million is requested for native and exotic species management that will enable the NPS to meet the Service's long-term goals related to exotics control and to recovery of threatened and endangered species; \$3.5 million within the Natural Resource Preservation Program to boost the number of projects undertaken each year; \$2.021 million is included for California Desert parks and will be used to develop and complete a desertwide database of disturbed lands, establish a seed collection program and native plant nursery and holding facilities, initiate a desertwide restoration education campaign, and begin restoration of the California Desert; \$1.5 million is requested to implement the Resource Protection Act which will enable the NPS to recover damages to property, facilities, natural and cultural resources; and \$735,000 is requested for geologic expertise to support the more than 160 NPS units that have significant geologic resources.

- **+\$9.494 million requested for Cultural Resource Stewardship to address backlogs and other needs within the Service's cultural resource management programs and to further efforts aimed at preserving and safeguarding the Nation's resources as a legacy for future generations.**

The budget proposes \$9.5 million for cultural resource stewardship. Within the total is a request of \$5.0 million to begin a new program, "America's Treasures Online," that will broaden public access to NPS collections and provide the public with a new resource for learning through the Internet; \$1.5 million for the Cultural Resources Preservation Program to increase the number of projects that can be completed each year; \$1.0 million for the Collections Management Program to step up the backlog of cataloging needs within the NPS; \$1.0 million to conduct theme studies to identify and document sites associated with Asian, Hispanic, African American and other cultural groups whose contributions to American history have not been adequately reflected by national historic landmark designations and National Register of Historic Places listings; and \$994,000 for Vanishing Treasures to continue funding support for the preservation and treatment of prehistoric and historic sites in the desert southwest to prevent permanent loss of these rapidly deteriorating resources.

- **+\$5.131 million requested for a *Partners for Parks Initiative* to increase the number of partners and volunteers that contribute their time, money and effort to protecting the national parks.**

Included in the total increase is \$1.0 million to provide program coordination and training to help individual parks pursue greater use of cooperative agreements and partnerships; \$1.0 million for the Volunteer-in-Parks program to boost volunteer contributions by 500,000 hours; \$981,000 for Humanity for Habitat, an effort to engage older Americans in the protection and preservation of parks; and \$2.0 million for Challenge Cost-share projects that are competitively selected to leverage non-Federal funds to address park needs. An increase of \$150,000 is also requested for the Trails and Rails program, an exciting partnership with Amtrak and others which seeks to expand knowledge about the national parks. The NPS also has committed to using up to \$4.0 million of Natural Resource Preservation Program and Cultural Resource Preservation Program funds for projects with cost-share arrangements, as well as up to 15 percent of the discretionary Servicewide (20%) portion of fee receipts under the Recreation Fee Demonstration Program.

The following budget table and appropriations summary compares the FY 2000 budget request for the National Park Service to the FY 1999 enacted level.

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		1999 <u>Enacted</u>	2000 Budget <u>Request</u>	Change From 1999 <u>(+/-)</u>
<u>Appropriations:</u>				
Operation of the National Park System	\$(000)	1,287,924	1,389,627	+101,703
	FTE	16,833	17,387	+554
Reimbursable Activities	FTE	104	128	+24
National Recreation and Preservation	\$(000)	46,225	48,336	+2,111
	FTE	293	327	+34
Historic Preservation Fund	\$(000)	72,412	80,512	+8,100
Construction and Major Maintenance	\$(000)	229,738	194,000	-35,738
	FTE	729	562	-167
Reimbursable Activities	FTE	302	258	-44
Land Acquisition and State Assistance	\$(000)	147,925	172,468	+24,543
	FTE	143	177	+34
Conservation Grants and Planning Assistance	\$(000)	0	200,000	+200,000
	FTE	0	60	+60
Urban Park and Recreation	\$(000)	0	4,000	+4,000
Land and Water Conservation Fund Contract Authority	\$(000)	-30,000	-30,000	0
Subtotal, NPS Appropriations	\$(000)	1,754,224	2,058,943	+304,719
	FTE	18,404	18,899	+495

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE FY 2000 REQUEST (continued)

		1999 <u>Enacted</u>	2,000 Budget <u>Request</u>	Change From 1999 <u>(+/-)</u>
<u>Permanents and Trust Funds:</u>				
Recreation Fee Permanent Appropriations	\$(000)	144,518	155,912	+11,394
	FTE	814	869	+55
Other Permanent Appropriations	\$(000)	35,495	40,814	+5,319
	FTE	149	181	+32
Land and Water Conservation Fund Contract Authority	\$(000)	30,000	30,000	0
Miscellaneous Trust Funds	\$(000)	9,508	9,508	0
	FTE	65	65	0
Construction Trust Fund	\$(000)	0	0	0
	FTE	1	1	0
Subtotal, Permanents and Trusts	\$(000)	219,521	236,234	+16,713
	FTE	1,029	1,116	+87
BUDGET AUTHORITY, Total NPS	\$(000)	1,973,745	2,295,177	+321,432
	FTE	19,433	20,015	+582
Concessions Improvement Accounts	\$(000)	24,500	24,000	-500
Net Allocations	FTE	749	777	+28
FTE, Total NPS	FTE	20,182	20,792	+610

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Operation of the National Park System

The FY 2000 NPS budget would provide \$1.390 billion and 17,387 FTE for the **Operation of the National Park System** appropriation, which represents an increase of \$101.7 million (and 554 FTE), or 7.9 percent, above the FY 1999 enacted for this account. The funding request would provide an additional \$96.3 million within the *Park Management* activity to enable enhanced operations and a higher level of service to park visitors; and an increase of \$5.397 million for the *External Administrative* Costs activity to adjust for a GSA rate increase for space rental, employee compensation payments, U.S. Park Police pension costs and other related expenses.

Within the programmatic total for this appropriation is an increase of \$25 million for park operations. This funding and 319 FTE will address specific operating needs at 90 park units, two national historic trails and the United States Park Police. The funding will be used to address five broad categories of need, including: (1) \$8.29 million at 39 parks for technical expertise to address threats to park resources such as at Carlsbad Caverns National Park where funding would be used to support resource protection efforts to reduce vandalism, increase restorations of cave features, and reduce contaminant infiltration into the cave resource, (2) \$1.6 million for a coral reef initiative that will focus on activities required to implement Executive Order 13089 (Coral Reef Protection), for the preservation, protection, and restoration of United States coral reef ecosystems at nine coastal parks including Biscayne National Park where funding will be used to allow comprehensive baseline monitoring of coral reef conditions, (3) \$9.852 million for 28 urban parks to address shortfalls due to increased demand for services, such as at Boston African American National Historic Site where funding will be used to enable interpretation and maintenance at the Abiel Smith School and the African Meeting House and educational programs at the Museum of African-American History. Of this amount, \$2.661 million is for U.S. Park Police operations associated with increased responsibilities in urban park areas, (4) \$9.268 million for 42 parks that have acquired new operational or special responsibilities such as planning for the national celebration marking the 200th anniversary of the Lewis and Clark Expedition which explored, recorded, and mapped in detail the western portion of the United States (2004-2006), and (5) \$6.079 million for ongoing maintenance needs at 41 parks to complement and support the Service's "Safe Visits to Public Lands" initiative such as at Buffalo National River where funding will be used to mitigate hazards and damage to 140 miles of park trails; this funding will enable parks to meet and better comply with health and safety codes and standards, better serve the park visitor, and ensure that essential safety and other communications equipment are in place to protect park resources, park visitors, and other park assets. The total of amounts shown by category exceed \$25 million due to some of the increases falling into more than one category.

The budget also provides \$19.756 million within the *Resource Stewardship* activity for a Natural Resource Initiative which is intended to draw together the people, plans, public support and funds necessary to protect parks in the challenging climate of the future. Parks today are threatened by invasions of alien species, pollution, and incompatible uses. With this increase, the NPS would begin the necessary challenge of revitalizing natural resources management in the National Park Service. Included in the total is an increase of \$8.0 million within the inventory and monitoring program that will enable the NPS to accelerate completion of inventories; \$4.0 million for native and exotic species management that will enable the NPS to continue progress on the Service's long-term goals related to exotics control and to recovery of threatened and endangered species; \$3.5 million which will be used to provide a substantial increase to general funding of the Natural Resource Preservation Program and a boost in the number of restoration and recovery projects undertaken; \$2.021 million for critical restoration needs at California Desert parks; \$1.5 million to begin implementation of the Resource Protection Act which is designed to allow the National Park Service to recover damages to property, facilities, natural and cultural resources, and visitor experiences; \$735,000 for geologic expertise to support the more than 160 NPS units that have significant geologic resources and to provide staff to help with research, surveys, planning, and implementation of projects necessary for geologic resource protection.

For continued support of the "Save Visits to Public Lands" initiative, first proposed in FY 1999, the NPS is requesting an increase of \$12.5 million for specific the Facility Operations and Maintenance requirements. Of the total increase, \$5.0 million will be provided to the Repair and Rehabilitation program to address the highest priority health and safety projects that were identified and ranked as part of the Department's 5-year plan that lists priority NPS health and safety projects, building on an increase of \$24.0 million enacted in FY 1999, \$4.0 million will be provided to the Cyclic Maintenance program to assist the Service in preventing the deterioration of facilities; \$2.5 million will be used to begin the systematic collection of detailed, comprehensive inventory and condition assessment data on critical National Park

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System assets and to identify those in poor condition. These inventory and condition assessments will be the primary performance measure for GPRA for the Service's maintenance related activities; and \$1.0 million will be used to allow the National Park Service to continue development and implementation of an updated Year 2000-compliant maintenance management system that meets the provisions of Public Law 98-540 which required the NPS "to implement a maintenance management system into the maintenance and operations programs of the National Park System, and requires the National Park Service to annually transmit to specified Congressional committees a report summarizing the status of implementation of a maintenance management system until such system has been implemented."

Additional funding of \$8.494 million has been proposed within the *Resource Stewardship* activity for the cultural resources management program to address expanded needs in cultural heritage preservation and to begin a major project aimed at online access to the Service's cataloged artifacts. Included in the total is \$5.0 million for "America's Treasures Online, a systematic program to digitize images of NPS archival and museum collections and make them accessible to the public through the Internet; \$1.5 million for the Cultural Resources Preservation Program to assist parks in the development of park-specific cultural resource condition monitoring programs to identify and check on resource preservation needs and threats, and assist central offices to develop and maintain automated inventory systems and databases; \$1.0 million to accelerate object and artifact cataloging within the collections management program; and \$994,000 to provide continued support of the Vanishing Treasures initiative, first funded in FY 1998, for the preservation and treatment of prehistoric and historic sites in the desert southwest.

This request would also fund enhancements to a number of other park programs, including \$5.7 million for administrative systems upgrades and integration; \$2.0 million for the Challenge Cost-share program which will be used to leverage non-Federal funds and in-kind services for competitive projects in units of the National Park System; \$1.0 million for a new Partners for Parks program that will provide program coordination and training to help individual parks pursue greater use of cooperative agreements and partnerships; \$1.0 million for the Volunteer-in-Parks program to boost park volunteer budgets which will result in an increase in the number of volunteers and volunteer hours by 500,000 hours of work valued at an estimated additional \$7.0 million; \$981,000 for Humanity for Habitat, an effort by the agency to engage older Americans in the protection and preservation of parks. This effort is designed to expand the NPS volunteer program to make better use of the skills and experience of the Nation's aging/senior population in all sectors of the NPS; \$800,000 for aircraft overflight management; \$500,000 for conservation education which will be used to support the translation of technical natural resource data into a variety of popular and understandable media for delivery to the public; \$499,000 for needs associated with the South Florida Task Force; \$150,000 for Rails to Trails, which provides educational opportunities for rail passengers that foster an appreciation of a region's natural and cultural heritage and funding would also provide partial funding for training, publications, development of portable exhibits, development of on-board curriculum; and \$150,000 for continuity of operations planning that will ensure the continuity of essential functions in the event of emergencies.

In FY 2000, the NPS is also proposing a restructuring of the budget presentation which will affect the Operation of the National Park System (Park Management/Maintenance) and the Construction accounts. These changes are reflected in the comprehensive summary table, the uncontrollable table, and as appropriate within the ONPS and Construction sections of this document.

National Recreation and Preservation

The FY 2000 request for the National Recreation and Preservation appropriation is \$48.336 million and 327 FTE, which represents a net increase of \$2.1 million and 34 FTE over the FY 1999 enacted level. This budget will enable expanded partnership opportunities, including funding support for an international protected areas leadership symposium in response to demands for training in this area. Included in the total is \$1.913 million in net programmatic increases and \$184,000 million in net uncontrollable and related requirements which are primarily attributable to pay and benefit adjustments for employees. Programmatic changes are proposed for the *Natural Programs* activity (+\$3.250 million for the Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program to include \$1.250 million for Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails assistance), the *Cultural Programs* activity (+\$800,000 for National Historic Landmark Theme Studies), the *International Park Affairs* activity (+\$150,000 for International Protected Areas Leadership Training), and for *Heritage Partnership Programs* (+\$250,000 for Commissions and Grants). Offsetting this increase is a programmatic decrease request within the *Statutory or Contractual Aid* activity of \$2.8 million. This budget also

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proposes to establish a new component within the Natural Programs activity, Hydropower Recreation Assistance, in response to an anticipated increase in demand for NPS assistance in the area of hydropower relicensing. An escalating trend in the number of Federal Energy Regulatory Commission licenses expiring will result in a dramatic increase in requests for NPS assistance in negotiating settlement agreements; it is expected that the number of requests for NPS assistance will increase from 5 in 1997, to 36 in 2000, and 236 in the next decade.

Historic Preservation Fund

The Service's FY 2000 budget provides \$80.512 million for the Historic Preservation Fund, which reflects a net increase of \$8.1 million over the 1999 enacted for this account. Within the *Grants-in-Aid* activity, an \$8.1 million program change is summarized as follows: grants to States and Territories would be continued at the FY 1999 enacted level of \$31.4 million; grants to Indian Tribes is proposed to remain at the FY 1999 enacted level of \$2.596 million; grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities would receive an increase of \$6.6 million for a \$15.022 million program total to provide partnership support to these institutions on a 1:1 matching basis for rehabilitation and restoration following completion of condition assessments conducted in 1998; and grants to Threatened and Endangered National Historic Landmarks would be funded at \$1.5 million (this program was proposed, but not funded in FY 1999) to enable partnership assistance to the National Trust for Historic Preservation for restoration work on the Dolly Madison room at Montpelier, the home of President James Madison. This budget, additionally, continues funding of the *Grants-in-Aid to Save America's Treasures* at \$30.0 million, which is unchanged from FY 1999.

Construction and Major Maintenance

The NPS budget for FY 2000 would provide \$194 million for the Construction and Major Maintenance appropriation, which represents a decrease of \$35.738 million below the 1999 enacted level. In FY 2000, the Administration is proposing a restructuring of the budget presentation which will affect the Operation of the National Park System (Park Management/Maintenance) and the Construction accounts; these changes are reflected in the comprehensive summary table and as appropriate within the ONPS and Construction sections of this budget document. The new structure provides for a Construction and Major Maintenance appropriation with six primary activities: (1) Line Item Construction and Maintenance, (2) Special Programs (which includes Emergency and Unscheduled projects, Housing, Dam Safety, Demolition, and Equipment Replacement), (3) Construction Planning, (4) Pre-Design and Supplementary Services, (5) Construction Program Management and Operations, and (6) General Management Planning.

Within the total for this account, the budget provides \$118.175 million for 36 *Line Item Construction and Maintenance* projects in 35 national park areas that will allow for the completion or continuation of ongoing project work, address critical health and safety requirements, and provide for essential/critical resource protection; \$35.305 million is requested for *Special Programs* including an increase of \$1.0 million for emergency and unscheduled projects, and an increase of \$1.0 million to implement a multiyear seismic safety plan needed to correct structural deficiencies in high-risk seismic areas and to minimize seismic risk to NPS properties; a \$10.0 million program is proposed for housing replacement, reflecting a decrease of \$2.0 million from FY 1999; \$1.440 million is requested for the dam safety program; \$19.865 million for equipment replacement including an increase of \$3.0 million for modernization of information management equipment, and an increase of \$1.463 million for new radio technology in order to meet the established schedule for conversion to the new radio frequencies as required by legislation. A \$10.195 million program is proposed for *Construction Planning* reflecting a decrease of \$6.175 million which complies with a recommendation from the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) study (of the NPS construction program) that specified that construction planning not exceed 10 percent of the final construction cost for each construction project; \$4.5 million is proposed for *Pre-design and Supplementary Services*; \$17.1 million is requested for *Construction Program Management and Operations* which includes \$16.1 million to base fund operations at the Denver Service Center; and \$8.725 million for *General Management Planning*, reflecting a \$1.0 million increase over FY 1999. This funding will be used to bring 200 outdated and obsolete general management plans up to date and to accelerate the process of completing plans for 21 new park areas.

The central focus of the NPS line item construction and maintenance request continues to be facility improvement, utility repair, and cultural and natural resources preservation. The following priority line item construction and maintenance projects will be among those funded in FY 2000:

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- +\$20.0 million at Everglades National Park to continue water delivery system modifications by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers;
- +\$8.250 million at Fort Sumter National Historic Site to complete construction of a tour boat facility;
- +\$7.699 million at Mount Rushmore National Memorial to replace an inadequate water treatment plant;
- +\$6.335 million at Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site to rehabilitate the deteriorating Monroe School and to adapt this facility for visitor use;
- +\$6.335 million at Death Valley National Park to replace an inadequate and unsafe maintenance facility; and
- +\$4.965 million at Big Cypress National Preserve to provide safe visitor facilities along a scenic roadway.

Land Acquisition and State Assistance

This budget provides \$172.468 million for the Land Acquisition and State Assistance appropriation, which reflects an increase of \$24.543 million over the FY 1999 enacted level for this account. No funding is requested for Land and Water Conservation Fund State grants (last funded in FY 1995) and the budget allows \$1.0 million for *State Grants Administration* that will provide for continued monitoring and other responsibilities associated with oversight of previously awarded grants; this level represents an increase of \$500,000 from the FY 1999 enacted. Included in the \$171.5 million request for the *Federal Land Acquisition* Program is \$160.468 million for priority land purchases, and \$11.0 million for program management and administration. A \$2.5 million increase proposed for acquisition management is needed, (1) to fund the uncontrollable salary increase of 3.6 percent for fiscal year 1999 and 4.4 percent projected for FY 2000, and (2) for additional personnel to administer the Federal land acquisition program in South Florida which will enable the NPS to meet the expected completion schedule established by the Department of the Interior.

Funding requested for Federal land acquisition will be used for high priority purchases including: \$20 million to complete all necessary Federal land acquisition within the boundary of Everglades National Park; \$11.8 million to acquire lands within the original Big Cypress watershed as well as lands within the preserve addition; \$6.3 million at Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial National Military Park to enable broader protections for Civil War battle sites, including lands associated with the Chancellorsville and Wilderness battle campaigns; \$7.1 million for acquisition of fragile and environmentally sensitive desert tortoise habitat at Mojave National Preserve (these lands additionally contain significant natural, scenic, and archeological resources); \$5.7 million to acquire three tracts that are threatened with commercial development at Gettysburg National Military Park; \$5.0 million to acquire King family properties (Mrs. King's residence, the King Center Administration Building, Chapel of All Faiths, etc.) at Martin Luther King, Jr., National Historic Site; and \$4.0 million to complete acquisition of a 3-acre tract that is part of the Hawksnest watershed which empties into the coral reefs of Hawksnest Bay at Virgin Islands National Park. This budget, in addition, would increase the level of funding by \$1.0 million for each of the program's two specialized land accounts (emergencies/hardships and inholdings/exchanges) from \$3.0 million to \$4.0 million. A \$45.6 million grant to the State of Florida is also being proposed in this budget as part of the Everglades restoration effort; this funding is being requested under cost-share terms that will require the State of Florida to match the Federal share on a 1:1 basis. The Service's total \$172.468 million request for the land acquisition and State assistance program supports the Administration's *Land Legacy Initiative* and is part of a \$1.0 billion effort to preserve America's land resources.

Conservation Grants and Planning Assistance

General Statement

A total \$200 million is proposed in FY 2000 for a new Conservation Grants and Planning Assistance appropriation. The Conservation Grants and Planning Assistance appropriation is comprised of two activities: a *Conservation Grants* activity, proposed at \$150 million, would provide competitive grants to States, local and Tribal governments to assist these communities in protecting and preserving green spaces; and a *Planning Assistance to States* activity, would make \$50 million available to States and Indian tribes for competitive planning grants to assist in developing open space preservation plans. The NPS request for this program supports the Administration's *Land Legacy Initiative* and is part of a \$1.0 billion effort to preserve America's land resources. This proposal is central to the President's broad strategy of "Forging a Conservation Vision for the 21st Century." Federal funds will be used to leverage non-Federal monies to meet the matching requirements.

Urban Park and Recreation Fund

In FY 2000, the NPS is proposing a \$4.0 million program for the Urban Park and Recreation Fund appropriation in support of the Administration's *Land Legacy Initiative*. Urban Park and Recreation grants will be made available to economically distressed urban communities to support local park and recreation programs. Awards will be competitively based and will serve as models for future year projects. Funding for this programs is being requested under cost-share terms that will require local governments to match the Federal share; UPARR is a 70 percent Federal/30 percent local match program. This appropriation was last funded in FY 1994.